THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 28TH JULY.

THE *Pioneer* says that it has learnt on the best authority that the Maharajah Holkar has suspended Bala Shahib from exercising any jurisdiction in the State and will personally inquire into the vagaries of the heir apparent. The Maharajah has taken upon himself to set at liberty those traders whom the prince had imprisoned and to revoke the attachment by the Durbar of their property, pending trial of the cliams against them under the ordinary legal procedure. Shitaram has also been released. These proceedings of the Maharajah have been duly communicated to the Government of India and also the stipulation that the stipends of the Thakurs will henceforth be regularly paid by him.

RUSSIA IS TRYING to make the complications regarding the Central Asian question still more complicated by evincing an anxiety at the attitude which Abdur Rahaman is assuming to defend himself against all possible Russian aggressions, by denouncing it as an attempt to meddle with their recently conquered towns. The latest news from St. Petersburgh states that the Amir of Kabul is 'arming' and that Russian authorities are apprehensive of their inability to avoid a collision. The *Politische Correspondence* says "the Russian Government, is resolved not to take exception to this provocation." The Russian Government "having adopted as a principle that, according to existing treaties, they have only to deal with England in all questions affecting Afghanistan, it is with England alone that they are disposed to treat such matters. If Abdur Rahman means to meddle, it will certainly require no more than an appeal to the loyalty of the British Government to exclude the Amir from the debate, and to keep him within the bounds of that conciliatory policy of which England and Russia have given each other numerous proofs in the affairs of Central Asia." It is not difficult to catch the meaning of the above. Such professions of Russia mean nothing more than making the dilimitation question a still more confused and complicated one. This hoax they are playing, only to effect a rupture between Abdur Rahman and the British Government.

NEWS from Egypt assures us that general Gordon is holding his own at Khartoum.

THE PUNA FINE ARTS Exhibition will be opened on the 25th August next by the Governor, and the Commander-in-Chief, of Bombay.

WHAT WONDERS cannot science achieve! A scientist of Denmark is making experiments to convert, blood into animal food and has so far succeeded in his attempt that he has taken out a patent for a new kind of cake in which blood forms a constituent ingredient. The food is said to be very nutritious and so far free from blood smell that animals which have an instinctive dislike for blood take these cakes without a shrink.

SOVEMENYA ISVIESTIA a Russian newspaper, thus advises Russia to boldly secure its footsteps in Central Asia unmindful of English interest:

"We must emancipate ourselves from our eternal dread of England; we must at last perceive that England is powerless against us, and that the more decidedly and blodly we advance, the more we shall gain for the insurance of peace, for our right or participation in the division of the Turkish inheritance, and for the weight for our voice in all political questions concerning the Balkan peninsula." Russian indeed!

AN IMPRESSION having got abroad that the Madras Military offices were really going to be settled at Bangalore, the landlords of the houses in the Fort there have ordered their tenants to vacate their premises to enable them to put them to repairs; in default they are threatened with the exaction of double the rent they now pay.

IT IS stated that the Chinese Government have agreed to pay France an indemnity of nearly a million sterling, for the attack on the French troops near Langson.

THE Russian Government has sustained a heavy loss of over £100,000, and it is believed that a number of troops was also washed away, by the flood of the Oxus near Khiva at the end of April last with the Cantonment on the Agar Canal.

DEFALCATIONS to the amount of Rs. 1,128-9-0 are reported from the Lahore Post Office. The treasurer is now under arrest pending trial. The Post master General Mr. Lane, has come to Lahore to inquire into the case. We are sorry that defalcations have become rather frequent every-where. Does the frequency of such cases show no laxity of supervision?

THE BERLIN Government has again sent Dr. Koch to investigate into the character of the cholera epedemic in France and to test further the accuracy of the results of his experiments as regards the nature and propagation of the disease. We admire the German Government for the encouragement it is giving to its scientists and the good it is, in that way, doing to the world.

TUESDAY, 29TH JULY.

WE TAKE the following from the *Civil and Military Gazette*:—News letters from Cabul make frequent mention, now, of the Russians. Some of the stories told are no doubt invented; but even these help to show how the Russian advance is becoming a general topic of conversation. According to one letter, the Ameer Abdur Rahman recently declared, in Durbar, that the Russians had given up the idea of going to India through Afghanistan. They had asked the Maharajah of Kashmere to allow them to march through his dominions; and the terms of a treaty were being settled. A more credible report states that the party of Russians who lately crossed the Oxus at Karki have reached Panj-deh; and that a number of refugees from Maimena have gone to meet them. Probably, these Russians, of whom we heard on the 9th instant, are M.M. Shultaye and Danilow, of the Turkestan Rifle Brigade, who were sent ostensibly to explore the routes between Bokhara and Merv. Panj-deh is a settlment of the Saryk Turcomans, about half way between Merv and Herat. The Ameer Abdur Rahaman is said to have sent Ishak Khan's report of the circumstance to the Government of India. It is evident that Panj-deh is one of the points which Russia will endeavour to get possession of. Our maps place it within Afghanistan; the Russians draw the line some way to the south.

THE OPINIONS lately appearing in the Paris papers regarding Chinese affairs are very bellicose. The Republique Francise says that if reflection does not restore China to reason, the guns of the French fleet must bring her to her senses. Another paper distinctly mentions that any further negociations with China will only be a waste of time and that the Chinese should not be treated as a civilised power.

THE following telegram regarding the health of Simla appears in the *Englishman*:—"Quite an epidemic of typhoid fever appears to have broken out here. Among other cases there is one in the family of the Commander-in-Chief and one in that of Sir M. Biddulph. The Maharajah of Cuch Behar's child was recently attacked by what is believed to have been typhoid, and now he is himself laid up with what is supposed to be a fever of that character. The above is the second case of typhoid, in the Commander-in-Chief's family. For the past fortnight rain has fallen daily and the station has been almost continuously immersed in a raw chill mist." Is this insanitary condition of the hill sanitarium to be laid to the charge of the local municipality and will a commission sit upon judgment on it?

THE VIZIR of the Amir of Cabul, Kazi Sadadin Khan, is said to have died at Candahar. His remains will be interred at Cabul.

ONE OF our contemporaries states that the negociations with the Amir in regard to the dilimitation commission are not progressing satisfactorily. He seems to think that if he maintains an obstructive attitude regarding the safe conduct of the resort through Afghanistan the British Government will come forward with a money gift to appease him. Our money it seems, has increased the cupidity of the Amir.

MR. C. W. OWEN will probably go as medical officer with the Frontier Commission. The total staff going on the Commission from India is expected to number about twelve officers. The final selection of those whose names are before the Viceroy is suspended pending information from England.

THE following has been sent to us by the Press Commissioner:

Weekly memorandum of Remittances to the HomeTreasury by means of Council Bills.

1.	Amount to be remitted during 1884-85 ...	£14,568,945
2.	Remitted from 1st April 84 to 19th July 1884.	£4,652,600
3.	Balance to be remitted from 20th July 1884 to 31st March 1885	£10,016,345

WE ARE glad to see that the *Bombay Gazette* does not take the same roseate view of the action of the Bengal Government in relation to the Calcutta Municipality as some of our contemporaries have done. It says "there appears to outsiders to be an eagerness on the part of disbelievers in local self government to turn the occasion to the utmost account, with the view, not merely to hasten the cleansing of the town at any cost but to discredit the principle of Municipal institutions generally. Nothing but the most imperious necessity could justify so high-handed and arbitrary a course as the appointment of a Sanitary Commission, and no such necessity has arisen; the Municipality has not set itself to oppose needed improvements. To seriously propose to set the regular machinery of the city by Government aid is wholly inexcusable. We are glad to find sufficient public spirit in Calcutta to protest earnestly and energetically against so subversive a measure. In their resistance to this ill-omened attempt to override Municipal rights and privileges, the rate-payers of Calcutta will receive the hearty moral support of all who understand what is at stake." Nothing could be more just than what has been said above. The rate-payers and their representatives in the Municipality ought now to maintain their ground as strenuously as possible to repel this unnecessary and unprovoked attack of Government upon them.

WEDNESDAY, 30TH JULY.

WE ARE glad to learn that Mr. H. J. Reynolds, Secretary to the Government of Bengal in the General and Revenue Departments, is appointed to be a Member of the Board of Revenue vice Mr. H. L. Dampier retired, and that Mr. A. P. MacDonell officiating Secretary has been confirmed in his appointment vice Mr. H. J. Reynolds.

THE following is a summary of the reports on the weather and crops in Bengal for the week ending the 23rd July 1884. Some rain fell, but more is wanted almost everywhere, specially in Birbhum and Darbhanga. Transplanting of *amun* is consequently not going on satisfactorily in all districts. The rainfall was heavy in Jajpur, and damaged *aus* and *amun* paddy to some extent. Prospects of standing crops still good. Harvesting of *aus* has commenced in some places; jute being cut in Dakka and Maimensingh. Prices almost stationary. Public health good though cholera and fever prevail in a few districts.

MR. GRANT DUFF left Bangalore, on the occasion of his recent visit, without any salute being fired in his honor. On inquiring into the cause of this omission it was ascertained that His Excellency has resolved to economize as much as possible in powder, the amount thus saved to go towards defraying the extra cost of living on the hills. Penny wise pound foolish!

THE UNIVERSE gives us an amusing *repartee* of an old priest. Dr. Baines asked an old priest in the north of England to what he would attribute the great influx into the church; he answered. "Under God, to the cholera and to the calumnies spread abroad by the British Reformation Society and other Associations of a like infamous character. The lies promulgated by these societies set men reading, and then (with the honest) the result is inevitable; but the cholera sets men thinking, which is as good, or perhaps better."

A CONTEMPORARY thus estimates the gain attending on the occupation of Merv by Russia:—1st, the incorporation of 50,000 of the best horsemen in the world into the Russian army, 2nd the occupation of Sarrakhs, only 202 miles from Herat, with safety from flank and rear attack—3rd. The occupation of the rich Atak, coolly annexed from Persia, which provides a safe and fertile route to Sarakhs and Merv 4th. The incorporation of the Sarik Turkoman's which brings Russia to within 140 miles of Herat

via the Murghab River. 5th, The incorporation of Esari Turkomans, which clears the road to Bokhara and Tashkend. 6th. The direct road to Khiva has been secured. 7th. A splendid and fertile base for future operations, excellent transport, and the finest breed of horses in Asia, have by her energetic and asterly advance become Russian. Enormous gain to Russia indeed. The Delimitation Commission will, we hope, take the facts into its consideration.

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance and Commerce have recently issued a resolution regarding the travelling and other allowances, under the Simla Code, payable to clerks who after passing the prescribed examination join their appointments at Simla. The Resolution says: Candidates who are appointed while the offices are at Simla are to receive the allowances granted by the Simla Allowances Code from the date of their assuming charge of their duties at Simla. They will also be allowed travelling expenses to Simla. Those candidates who desire to do so, are permitted in the first instance to join the portion of the office which remains at Calcutta. This measure of justice will help the poor *keranis* a great deal.

ON DIT OLD Osmam Digma has been killed.

THURSDAY, 31ST JULY.

MR. MARRIOT, Joint Magistrate of Dacca, has not only made himself known to the people of Bengal by his conduct towards the medical student at the Mitford Hospital but also by his judgment against the Editor of the East. We hear that the Magistrate has punished him and his publisher with a fine of Rs. 250 and 51 respectively for publishing a duly authenticated letter containing some complaints against the Dacca Mymensing Railway Company. Mr. Martin was the correspondent who wrote the letter; and the fun of the thing is that he has not been brought to trial for writing the correspondence. But the poor Editor has been hauled up and punished for printing and publishing it in his paper. It is said that the statements contained in the letter were corroborated by evidence, yet the Magistrate fined him Rs 250 on the allegation that it was published in a bad spirit and *mala fide*. We should like to ask the Magistrate if the motive ascribed to the Editor was actually proved in evidence or was a mere conjectural and inferential one.

THE *Pioneer* on the one hand finds fault with the Lahore Municipality for electing a gentleman as its President who cannot speak English and on the other admonishes Allahabad for adopting a resolution making the knowledge of English as indispensible for election to a commissionership of the local Municipality and very generously says in that case the 'ubiquitous Babu' and the 'loquacious pleader' will fill up the ranks. Does our contemporary mean that the Municipal commissionerships also should be set apart for white men only?

WE ARE sorry to see that another students case has cropped up in Krishnaghur, which if not in all fours with the Dacca case in all its details, resembles it in one material point—in the high handed proceedings of the Government officials. The case, which cannot come within the purview of the Penal Code, was nevertheless proceeded with albeit its trumpery nature. The facts of the case are that some of the College boys had gone to the Barwaritola at Goari to listen to a *jatra* (theatrical performance) that was going on there on Sunday the 30th *Ashar* last. Some of the College students clapped their hands when the Barwari people called on them to vacate their seats to make room for some pleaders and an Ex-Professor of the College. It is also urged by the prosecution that some bamboo benches were cut down but none of the witnesses could swear to the fact of the mischief being done by the boys. On information being given to the District Superintendent, he came out with a number of constables, head constables &c., and ordered promiscuous arrests to be made; some of the students were arrested at the bathing ghat of the river *Khurreah*. Such a case of Police vagary is not an exception to the rule now-a-days. Major Ramsay whose conduct we had the painful duty to criticise in connection with the Moheshgung case, has again become conspicuous by his despotic proceedings against the boys. In the cross-examination of the Sub-Inspector, it came out that he ordered the detention of the boys in the local police section for 24 hours; nothing could be more unjust, tyranical and illegal than this assumption of the Magisterial function by the Police officer. Very likely the Dacca case has emboldened our District Superintendent to take such an extraordinary step. As the case is *subjudice*, we refrain from making any further comments at present.

INTELLIGENCE received from Algiers states that anti-Jewish disturbances have occurred there. A sanguinary conflict took place a few nights ago. Several persons were wounded, and the Jewish quarter of the town was pillaged. The troops were obliged to interfere. Energetic measures have been taken to prevent any fresh disturbances.

THE Conference on the Egyptian question will last at least a month, and it is rumoured that it will not be the fault of the British Government if its deliberations are not prolonged over double that time. It is obvious that the Ministers there can have no greater object just now than to gain time, as there is at least one of the Continental Powers which is prepared to do anything in reason to keep the Gladstone Ministry in office. There is really no reason why the proceedings of the Conference should not be indefinitely prolonged.

NAWAB MUNIR-UL-MULK Bahadur, Revenue Minister of Hyderabad, who is on tour in Madras, was received publicly by the members of the Mahomedan community at a meeting held at the Presidency College on Saturday last. Last evening, the Nawab was received by the members of the Anjuman-i-Ilamiah, (Madras Mahomedan Association) at the premises, opposite the Ameer Mahal, in Pycroft's Road. The Nawab visited the High Court premises yesterday at noon, and was met by Mr. Justice Kernan who accompanied him through the different offices of the Court.

THE activity of the West is astounding! The Paris literary correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* says that there were seventy novels published at that place within one week! There were two or three new daily papers started owing to some quarrel in the editorial staff of an old established daily paper. As an instance of what fortunes are made by newspaper proprietors, the correspondent mentions the *Matin* newspaper which was started a few months back has been sold for a hundred thousand pounds.

FRIDAY, 1ST AUGUST.

KING JOHN of Abyssinia has ordered the Gallas to assemble at Hamaseyn, and to await there the course of events. It is added that the King is resolved not to permit Kassala to remain in the hands of the Arabs, and intends, in the event of the fall of the town, to take possession of it.

THE Punjab Government has sanctioned the employment, by the Rajah of Suket, of Mr. J. A. S. Donald (Extra Judicial Assistant Commissioner, Hoshiarpore), as Wazir of Suket State. Mr. Donald's position will be the same as that of the Wazir of other Hill States. A qualified Punjabi would have been welcome.

THE area under wheat cultivation in the parts of India under British rule, is estimated according to English measurement at some 20,000,000 acres, yielding annually between 5,500,000 to 6,000,000 tons. The corresponding area in States under Native Chiefs, is about 6,000,000 acres, yielding 6,5,00,000 tons. The production per acre varies from an average of 12 maunds in the N.W. Provinces and Oudh, to 7 in Berar. The soft white wheat which commands the highest price in the European market, grows to the greatest perfection in Northern India, Rajputana, and Guzerat. The soft red wheat ranks next, and grows principally in the Nerbudda valley. It is estimated that when our system of railways is more developed, one-fourth, or possibly more of the total out-turn, will, in good years, be available for export. The cost of production varies greatly in the different provinces.

A PROPOSAL is now under consideration of holding the examinations for clerkships in the Indian Secretariat Offices, in future, at Lahore and Allahabad, as well as at Calcutta. The idea, it is reported, is well received by the Secretariats.

THE *Jam-e-Jamshed* regrets to announce that a Parsee student, who is now in England learning engineering, and is the son of a well-known family in Bombay, has entered into a matrimonial alliance with an English girl. The conduct of this student, the paper believes, will deter many parents from sending their sons to England for the purpose of education.

A FRENCH gentleman anxious to find a wife for his scapegrace nephew, went to a matrimonial agent, who handed him his list of lady clients. Running this through, he lighted upon his wifes' name, entered as desirous of obtaining a husband between the age of twenty-eight and thirty-five—a blonde preferred. Forgetting his nephew, he hurried home to announce his discovery to his wife. That lady was not at all disturbed. 'O yes,' said she; 'that is my name; I put it down when you were so ill in the spring, and the doctor said we must prepare for the worst.' A lesson for European husbands.

WE HAVE RECEIVED a copy of the Civil Service Memorial from the Bombay Branch of the East India Association. The memorial traverses over the whole history of the competitive Civil Service from 1853 when the examination was first thrown open to the public down to 1876, the year when the limit of age was reduced to 19 years. The memorialists have prayed for the restitution of the old age limit of 23 years and that the examination to be held this country at one or more centres. We have all along maintained the same views as the memorial represents and cannot but accord our *warm support* to it.

A COMPLAINT has reached us regarding the injustice of letting out the Marichar Dearah *chur* in Rajshahye in ijarah to Messrs. Watson & Co., over again. The Memorial of the inhabitants sufficiently and clearly shows the nature of the oppression they were subjected to by the said Company. Besides, when *khas* collection is possible without any substantial loss to Government and when it is so much liked by the ryots themselves, we fail to understand why should Government lease out the *chur* to Messrs. Watson & Co., who it cannot be contended, had any proprietory right in it. We hope the Government of Bengal will not outstep its traditions by placing the *chur* in the hands of Messrs Watson & Co.

IT HAS NOW been definitely settled that the Zhob Valley expedition will start by the 15th September next. The District officials in the Quetta Division are busily engaged in collecting supplies &c. for the expedition. Brigadier General Sir O. V. Tanner was told off on inspection duty at Mangi whence he is expected back within two or three days.

SATURDAY, 2ND AUGUST.

THE INDIAN OFFICERS attached to the Frontier Commission will, the *Pioneer* states, probably rendezvous at Quetta and await there the reply—now long overdue—from the Ameer regarding their passage through Kandahar and Herat to the Persian frontier. Everything will be got ready for a rapid start across the Khojak, the instant the Ameer replies that he has instructed the Kandahar authorities to arrange for supplies, carriage, and escort in his territories. The Commission will, our contemporary hears, carry on the work, when once they begin, to the end of January, when they will go into winter quarters for two months, and then resume their labours in the spring.

THE PARTY of Khasis and Jantyas who came to the Calcutta Exhibition from the Khasi and Jantya hills returned to their homes, as the Deputy Commissioner says, much pleased and edified by what they had seen at the Mela.

SAYS A MADRAS PAPER: The Maharajah Holkar has twice telegraphed to Rajah Sir T. Madava Rao K. C. S I. to come to Indore for assisting him in settling the present embarrassed state of his kingdom. But the Rajah has declined the offer probably because the offer is not for the permanent dewanship. At a juncture like this when the eyes of every body have been turned towards the affairs at Indore, it is of the utmost importance that a man of the stamp of Sir T. Madava Rao should be at the helm of the state vessel of Baroda.

THE ENGLISHMAN says that one of the objects of the Government of India in purchasing as many stores as possible in India is to reduce the expenditure of the Store Department; but notwithstanding the efforts of the India Government the expenses of the India office on that head show but little decrease and this is owing to the entertainment of a costly establishment costing no less than a sum of Rs. £26,164 per annum. Really a great part of this sum is a mere waste of money, and we also think with the *Englishman* that there is ample room for retrenchment in the department.

DURING the week ending 27th July there were 225 deaths in Calcutta of which 9 were from cholera, 5 from small-pox, 80 from fever and the rest from other causes.

M. JULES JOUBERT writes once more to a Bombay paper urging that the proposed exhibition should be held next year. He says:—The London Exhibition in 1886, being purely Indian and Colonial, leaves British, Continental, and foreign exhibitors free; whereas I am aware that the majority have already pledged themselves to be present at the great Australian Jubillee Exhibition in 1887, and Paris will attract them in 1889. In fixing your Exhibition for November 1885, you will secure those, and if the matter be properly represented, I have no doubt but the Australians will come here to compete with India, prior to entering the lists against Indian products in London in 1886.

REFERRING to the colossal fortune of Mr. Vanderbilt, the New York Crœsus, an American paper says:—Mr. Vanderbilt's strong room is something extraordinary, a real fortified place. The foundations for it are dug in the rock. The front wall is no

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less than 5 feet in thickness, the back and the side ones are 3 feet deep, all solid stone and brick. The frame work and pillars are of iron, marble and mirror. The big safe, entirely of steel and iron, is built in the ground floor. Each of the four outer doors weighs 8,200lbs. Imbeded in the thick masonary, the safe is absolutely fire, water, and burglar proof. The armed men who watch it day and night are subjected to the strictest discipline. Their movements are recorded from hour to hour through an electric clock in telegraphic communication with the central police station and all telegraph stations. The main door can only be opened by the owner himself. A hundred men inside the strong room armed with Gatlings could easily hold their ground against an armed crowd and resist a regular siege.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications :—1. Notes of cases of Civil Procedure by L. Broughton. 2. Fifty-Third Annual Report of the District Charitable Society. 3. General Report of the Indian Survey Department. 4. Journal of the National Indian Association. 5. Indian Postal Guide July 1884. 6. The Government and the Buddists of Ceylon. 7. The Money-Market and Paper Currency of British India by N. P. VanDen Berg LLD. 8. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal Nos. V. and VI. 9. Journal of the East Indian Association February and March numbers, 10. Civil Justice Report of British Burmah for 1883. 11. Mahomedan Law in Bengali by Shyama Kanta Roy. 12. A Treatise on what is Hinduism. 13. Prachar, a monthly journal Part I. 14 The Regenerator of Aryavarta No. 30.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, July 28.—It is believed that, at the meeting of the Conference to-day, sanction will be given for inaugurating a provisional scheme for the relief of the financial difficulties of Egypt in the forms of a small loan by England.

London, August 1.—The Egyptian Conference is adjourned until Saturday, as M. Waddington is still awaiting instructions from the French Government.

The *Times* in a leading article to-day, announces that preparations for the autumn campaign to the Soudan have been stopped, and that the boats and other material intended for the campaign will be sold.

2.—The Birmingham dynamiter Daly has been sentenced to penal servitude for life and his accomplice to twenty years' penal servitude.

Cairo, July 31.—Suakim was attacked in great force by the rebels yesterday, but the attack was repulsed. The British troops are suffering from sunstroke.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, JULY 28, 1884.

THE SUPERCESSION OF THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

I.

WE are glad to observe that both the rate-payers of Calcutta and their representatives—the Municipal Commissioners—have made a firm stand against the proposal of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor to supersede the Calcutta Municipality. The ground they have taken is perfectly justifiable. Under Act IV. of 1878, His Honor has no power to appoint a Commission of the kind proposed by the Bengal Government. The question of Self-Government is at stake. It is no time to submit silently to the behests of Government when these behests are not according to law. There is nothing wrong in standing for our rights, when these rights have been guaranteed to us by Government. The question is whether representative institutions should be maintained, or we should go back to the days of absolute despotism, when the people had no voice in administering their affairs. Of course it is in the power of the Legislature to sweep away the representative institutions of the country, such as they are, by one short Act. But till that is done we must hold our own, and claim those rights which Government has given us.

The question is why should the Bengal Government supersede the Municipality, and take the administration of Municipal affairs into its own hands? We readily admit that the Local Government is responsible, in the ultimate resort, for the sanitary welfare of the town. But it must be shown that the Municipality has failed to do its duty as guardians of public health. If it could be clearly proved that the Corporation, with the limited financial resources at its command, has absolutely failed to make adequate provision for the general sanitary improvement of the town, Government would be perfectly justified to act under Section 28 of the Municipal Act. But His Honor distinctly says that the proposal to appoint this Commission is not based upon Section 28. The very constitution of the proposed Commission shows that His Honor does not wish to interfere with the Municipality under this controlling provision of the Act. In what capacity then does the Government propose to destroy the independence of the Municipality? Mr. Buckland, who brought forward at the last meeting of the Municipality the motion that the Commissioners should adopt the Government proposal, virtually answers the question in this way—'Government may appoint such a Commission in its executive capacity; or you may say that the Government possess certain powers under the Municipal Act; whatever else it requires to do for the good of the public, it does in virtue of the powers it has retained in its own hands!' This is exactly the question at issue. Government has no power under the Municipal Act to act in this manner; and its action is condemned simply because it can not control the proceedings of the Municipality by virtue of the powers it has retained. It has resigned those powers to the Corporation, and cannot now resume those powers with any show of reason. Mr. Buckland seems to be perfectly conscious of the fact that the appointment of the Commission is illegal. "There is no pretence whatever in this case," he says, "that the action of the Government is taken under the provisions of the Municipal Act at all. The Act, however, on the other hand has no section to the effect that any thing done by the Local Government otherwise than in accordance with the Act shall be illegal." This is tantamount to saying that Government has not the shadow of a power under the Municipal Act to appoint this Commission. The Act is silent about any action which the Government may take contrary to the Act, and, therefore, Government may, if it is so disposed, strike a blow at the root of the representative system which is established by the Act. The Act lays down no penalty if the Local Government should do any thing in thorough disregard of its provisions. The Local Government is at perfect liberty, therefore, to do anything it pleases in contravention of the Act. We must say that Mr. Buckland must have been driven to desperate extremities when he is obliged to advance such arguments to defend the action of the Bengal Government. If you once admit that His Honor is not justified to proceed in this manner by any provision of the Municipal Act, your case falls to the ground, and you must at once yield your point. "We are sure to hear a good deal," says Mr. Buckland, "about this Commission being illegal, but I shall be surprised if I can hear any arguments that can in any way overrule the arguments I have ventured to set forth." Mr. Buckland's invulnerable arguments are based upon abstract propositions, and do not rest upon practical grounds. The truth of these abstract propositions it would be folly in us to impugn, but we would request him to descend from the cloudland and deal in facts which ordinary human understanding can comprehend—and to relegate once for all his *imperium in imperio*, and that "general power of Government which may be called *salus populi suprema est tex prerogative*" to the regions of Limbo, where they may safely remain for ages to come.

II.

The simple question is, 'Can the Bengal Government appoint such a Commission under the law?' We contend that it is not competent to do so. Any one who will take the trouble to study the question thoroughly, and look into the proceedings of the Bengal Council when Act IV of 1876 was in Bill form, will agree with us that the Commission is not legal. The Bengal Government originally intended to retain powers in its hands which would have enabled it to exercise despotic control over the Calcutta Municipality, but those powers it had subsequently resigned. The original intentions of the Local Government may be clearly seen in the following remarks of Sir Richard Temple, the founder of the representative system in Calcutta :

"Well, though I am, as I have already said, in favour of giving the Corporation as much power of self-government as may be safely possible, yet I certainly think that there are points in which the Government must retain the final authority. These points are the ordering of particular works of public utility to be executed, the levying or limiting of taxes, and the fixing of the strength of the police establishment. So, I submit, it will be necessary either to pass some general power compelling the Commissioners to obey any order they may receive from the Government, or, if that were thought to be too general—and I do not think that so wide a power need be insisted upon—then it would be sufficient to take certain particular points, such as those I have mentioned, the great works of public utility, the taxes, and the police, which may be specified as the points upon which the Municipal Commissioners must obey the orders they may receive from Government. I should suppose that such occasions would be extremely rare when Government would thus interpose."

Following the lines distinctly laid down by Sir Richard Temple, the Select Committee, to which the Bill was committed to consider the constitutional sections of the Bill, while providing for an elective system in Calcutta, provided for the control, as foreshadowed by His Honor, which should be exercised by Government. These controlling sections were as follow :

Funds to be provided by Commissioners for certain purposes.

21. It shall be the duty of the Commissioners and they are hereby required, to provide such funds as may be necessary for the maintenance of the Police, in the manner and to the extent mentioned in Chapter VIII, and for the purpose of making adequate and suitable, provision for the cleaning, draining, and conservancy arrangements of the Town, and for maintaining a proper and sufficient water-supply.

Course to be adopted by Government upon complaint made of default in carrying out provisions of Act.

22. Upon complaint made to the Local Government that the Commissioners appointed by and under the provisions of this Act have made default in performing the duties imposed upon them by the last preceding section, the Local Government, if satisfied after due inquiry that the alleged default has been committed, shall make an order intimating a time for the performance of their duty by the Commissioners, and it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to comply with such order and such order shall have all the force of a resolution passed by the Commissioners in meeting, and the Commissioners shall not have power to cancel or modify such order.

If Commissioners fail to provide funds, Local Government may declare rates.

58. If it shall at any time appear to the Local Government that the Commissioners have failed to provide sufficient funds for the efficient performance of the duties imposed on them by the section twenty-one, it shall be lawful for the Local Government by a notification published in the *Calcutta Gazette* to declare the rates at which the rates and taxes imposed by this Act, or any of them, shall be raised from the commencement of the next ensuing quarter, until the close of the current year, and it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to comply with such notification; and such notification shall have all the force of a resolution passed by the Commissioners under the last preceding section, and the Commissioners shall not have power to alter the rates at which the rates and taxes are fixed by such notification.

Since these sections were published, the Council received memorials from the British Indian Association, the Indian League, the Trades Association, and other public bodies. All these memorials fully appreciated an elective system provided it was not subject to Government control. These memorials were referred back to the Select Committee with the view of considering whether the sections which gave to Government the power of control could not be so modified as in a measure to meet the objections raised against them in the memorials. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor on agreeing to the motion that the Bill should be referred back to the Select Committee said :

I desire only to add my cordial concurrence in the motion proposed by the hon'ble mover, to the effect that three particular sections of the Bill—Sections 21, 22, and 58—be again referred to the Select Committee for report. I have particular satisfaction in voting for that motion, because, after considering the memorials which have been presented to us on this subject, and particularly after having had the advantage of hearing verbally what has been stated to me by two influential deputations from different sections of the community who have been good enough to meet me, I say that I for one do believe that these three sections do admit of very considerable improvement. And I say that, if the matter shall be again considered by the Select Committee, such improvements may be effected for the consideration of the Council. But beyond that, I desire to express my entire concurrence with what has fallen from the learned Advocate-General, to the effect that though it may be possible to modify the provisions for Government control, and in some degree to meet the wishes of the memorialists and the objectors, it is impossible to abandon Government control altogether, if there is to be an elective system at all.

Delegates were sent to the Select Committee by the Justices of the Peace for Calcutta, and the various bodies who had memorialised the Government, and who urged that the power which the Grovernment proposed to retain in its hands to control the action of the Municipality 'was not consistent with a free elec-

tive system.' Here we cannot resist the temptation of making the following extract from the speech of Mr. Ingram, the representative of the British Indian Association to the Select Committee:

The celebrated Statesman who wrote out the petition of rights said that fraud always dealt in generalities. The wording of Section 21 was so general that almost anything under it might be made binding. Why, almost every single duty, with the exception of providing hospitals and dispensaries, was mentioned in 21. They objected most strongly to the provisions mentioned in chapter 8. They were there made lower than hewers of wood and drawers of water, they were made under it a conduit-pipe, without option, without intelligence, without any power whatever to do anything whatever. They merely received the Police Budget and passed it on. It was unworthy of free and independent men to be called upon to go through the farce of voting and managing the funds of their fellow-citizens, to decide upon all municipal matters, and yet at the sametime to act as a conduit-pipe without sense or discretion. Supposing you were told, for instance, that such a thing was proposed in Australia, what would be the general feeling of an Englishman about it? He would pity the attempt, and would not believe that there were any men with self-respect in the world who would be found to act such a part as that.

The next section contained the words "upon complaint made." He did not know but that all were aware that there was a section proposed to be put into the Evidence Act, that the Judge would be able to act upon evidence which he had not himself seen. Now,it was submitted that in a case of murder or any other severe prosecution, the mind of the Judge might be determined by what he had heard from his barber that morning! He was not saying at all that the present Lieutenant Governor would not avail himself of the powers under the Act to act properly, and with proper judgment. He was speaking of probabilities for instance; and somewhat abstract propositions. The body he represented entertained a due and proper respect for constituted authority. They had no wish to make personal allusions, neither had he, but he begged to allude to a possibility which might arise in the future They might for instance have a Lieutenant Governor, in the future, who would be fantastic in his ideas, and most anxious to carry out the full authority vested in his hands. Here they would have a Corporation sitting in a hall for Municipal purposes, debating and deciding them, and yet every order of theirs might be set aside by an order from the then Lieutenant-Governor, who would actually cancel every single thing they might do, so far as an order to cancel the doings of a living body could cancel them, in spite of resolutions having the force of such having been passed in meeting by commissioners, who might have the strongest opinions against the necessity of such order, and who, from a conscientious feeling of doing their duty, might have voted against it. Let the complaint be made even by the barber who shaved him in the morning, and the thing could be done.

There was not even a means suggested for the proper recording of the complaint. This was like the present system in the army, where a colonel might destroy the character of every officer under him by sending in a secret report. Here was a body of men treated like puppets under the order of the local Government by complaint made by an irremovable officer. The meaning of the section was this The Commissioners were appointed Trustees, and they were to direct the execution of all the duties, and yet they were to have no power, except under the sanction of the local Government; that was to say, that those taxes which were raised with so much difficulty, and expense, and oppression from the poorer classes, should be raised without any reference to them whatever; that the whole power of the disposal of it should be with the Government, there not being a single provision respecting reduction. On behalf of his clients, Mr. Ingram repudiated this Bill on the following grounds: That the Bill, if passed into law, would be a mere sham, because what it gave on the one hand, it took away on the other; that it asserted a principle it did not give, and was therefore highly illogical viz., that it established an absolute power to work with a representative institution.

III.

THE Select Committee in submitting its report said:

We, the undersigned members of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, to whom the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the municipal affairs of Calcutta was referred, with a view to reporting whether sections 21, 22, and 58 could be modified, have the honor to present the following report.

We have had the advantage of hearing counsel and delegates on behalf of the bodies mentioned in the margin.

The British Indian Association.
The Justice of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta.
The Indian League.
The Calcutta Trades Association.

We recommend that section 58 be omitted, and that the three sections annexed to this report be substituted for sections 21 and 22.

G. C. Paul.
Stuart Hogg.
V. H. Schalch.
H. L. Dampier.

H. J. Reynolds.
H. Bell.
T. W. Brokes.
Kristodas Pal.

Duties of Commissioners.

21. It shall be the duty of the Commissioners, and they are hereby required, to

(1) provide for the payment of the interest on the municipal debt in the manner prescribed by section three hundred and thirty-one;

(2) provide for the establishment of a reserve fund in the manner prescribed by the said section;

(3) provide such funds as may be necessary for the maintenance of the police in the manner and to the extent mentioned in Chapter VIII;

(4) complete and extend throughout the town the new underground drainage works now under construction, and for that purpose to expend annually a sum, being not less than one lakh and a half of rupees, or, with the sanction of the Local Government, any sum less than the above amount to be raised as provided by section three hundred and twenty-eight.

(5) maintain a water-supply in the manner and to the extent mentioned in Chapter VII,

(6) make adequate and suitable provision for the cleaning and the conservancy of the town, and to provide such funds as may be necessary for that purpose.

Local Government may appoint a commission.

22. If it shall appear to the Local Government that the Commissioners have failed to make adequate and suitable provision for the cleaning and the conservancy of the town to the extent likely to be prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants of the town, or of any part thereof, the Local Government may, by notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*, appoint a Commission, consisting of three persons, of whom one shall be the Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, or the Senior Medical Officer of the Presidency, the second shall be appointed by the Commissioners in meeting within thirty days of the date of the said notification, or in their default, by the Local Government, and third by the Local Government; and the Local Government shall order the members of the said Commission to report within a certain time, to be fixed by the LocalGovernment,whether they are of opinion that the cleaning, the conservancy of the town, are defective to an extent likely to be prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants of the town, or of any part thereof, and, if they shall be of such opinion, to specify in their report what further provision should be made for the cleaning and the conservancy of the town up to the end of the year then current, or of the year next succeeding, as may be directed by the Local Government,and to submit an estimate of the cost of the said further provision.

In default of Commissioners, Local Government may carry out recommendation contained in report of the Commission.

22, A. On receipt of the said report, the Local Government shall forward the same for the consideration of the Commissioners, and if the Commissioners shall decline to carry out the provisions recommended therein, the Local Government may order that such provisions, or any of them, or any portion of them respectively, be carried out; and thereupon it shall be the duty of the Commissioners to comply with such order, and to provide the funds mentioned in the said estimate, or such portion thereof as the Local Government may fix; and the Chairman shall forthwith carry out such order, and shall defray the cost of carrying out the same from the Municipal Fund, notwithstanding any power conferred on the Commissioners by section 46, or any thing to the contrary, contained in any other provision of this Act.

Now we will make the following extract from the proceedings of the Council, dated 18th March 1876:

The Hon'ble Sir Stuart Hogg said it would be in the recollection of the Council that several memorials were received objecting to the controlling clauses as contained in sections 21,22, and 58 of the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Municipal affairs of Calcutta. The memorialists seemed all unanimous in approving of the principle of election as set forth in the Bill. But they urged that the power which the Government proposed to itself to control the action of the Municipality was not consistent with a free elective system. The Council then referred the Bill back to the Select Committee, with the view of seeing how far it was possible in a measure to meet the wishes of the memorialists by modifying the control sections 21, 22, and 58.

By section 21 the duties to be performed by the Municipality were laid down in somewhat general terms. By section 22 a general power was given to the Government to interfere in the event of the Municipality not carrying out the works specified in general terms by section 21. And by section 58, in order to place the Municipality in funds to carry out the orders passed by the Government, power was given to the Government to raise the rates by a notification in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

The Select Committee now proposed to do away with section 58, which enabled the Government to raise the rates by an order issued in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and instead of declaring in general terms the duties which the Municipality should perform, the Committee proposed to set forth in section 21 in very specific terms those works which the Municipality must carry out, namely, to provide for the payment of interest on the debentures and loans from Government and the formation of a sinking fund; to maintain the police sanctioned by Government, to carry out the new underground drainage works now under construction; to maintain an efficient water-supply; to make adequate and suitable provision for conservancy; and to provide the funds necessary for these purposes. By section 22 the Committee proposed that the Government should be empowered, in the event of suitable provision not being made for carrying on the conservancy of the town,to appoint Commissioners to see how far the arrangements of the Municipality were defective, and whether they were defective to such an extent as to be prejudicial to the health of the inhabitants of the town; and in the event of the Commissioners appointed reporting that the arrangements were so defective as to be prejudicial to health, then, and only then, the Government was to be empowered, in the event of the Municipality declining to carry out the recommendations of the Commission, to order the Municipality to carry out such recommendations as might be made by the Commission.

He begged to place the report of the Select Committee before the Council, and to move that the recommendations of the Committee be adopted, namely, that section 58 of the Bill be omitted, and that sections 21, 22, and 22A be substituted for section 21 and 22

His Honor the President declared the motion to be unanimously agreed to, and in making that announcement he desired, on behalf of the Government of Bengal, to intimate his entire acceptance of the recommendations of the Committee, and to express his great satisfaction in being able to say so.

In making these long extracts we have endeavoured to give a faithful account of the history of the whole question. Any one who will read the account carefully,will be driven to the irresistible conclusion that the Bengal Government is committing a breach of pledge in trying now to assume powers which it had voluntarily resigned. Babu Kali Charan Banerjee, at the rate-payers' meeting and Mr. Gasper at the Municipal meeting, have ably discussed the legal side of the question; and Babu Surendranath Banerjee, with his usual eloquence, has exposed the fallacies of the Government and of pseudo-philanthropists. We are only surprised that Mr. Wyman, who took so prominent a part in the discussion, when the Municipal Bill was in Council in 1876, did not enlighten the rate-payers with the facts which happened within his knowledge at that time. He would have completely proved his case, if he had merely given a short account of what happened in 1876.

We deeply deplore the attitude which has been taken by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, and we are extremely grieved to observe the spirit in which all sections of the Calcutta Community view the proceedings of the Bengal Government. We would entreat His Honor not to take any action which would be inconsistent with "a free elective saystem," and we would conjure our countrymen not to impugn the motives of His Honor. There is not a shadow of doubt that His Honor proposes to appoint this Commission from the best of motives. It should be our object to represent respectfully to His Honor the injustice which will be done, and the hardship which will be inflicted on the rate-payers, and the absolute ruin which threatens the Calcutta Corporation. We would say in the language of Mr. Buckland, "we should not refuse to co-operate with the Government who are very friendly disposed towards us and who have the welfare of the town and population at heart. If you have been hurt, gentlemen, at any expressions that may have been used, put aside all such bad feelings and show that you are not actuated by any personal motives. Let us show how we can work together for the public good, and what good work the Calcutta Corporation can accomplish."

SIR ALFRED LYALL ON RAILWAY EXTENSION IN INDIA.

DURING the past four months Sir Alfred Lyall has had occasion twice to express his views on the important question of railway extension; and his utterances on both occasions possess more than a local interest. In opening the Fyzabad-Bahraich section of the Bengal and North-West Railway, Sir Alfred, in the course of an excellent speech, said:—"We all know the difficulties attending railway expansion in India; there are not only physical difficulties such as big rivers to cross or avoid, but there is the difficulty about raising capital; there is the contest between opposing doctrines as to railway construction in India and England; there is the battle of the gauges to fight, never ending, still beginning; there is the question of guarantee, or limited guarantee, or no guarantee at all; there is the trouble of divided management, with agencies in India and Boards in London." Again: "What we want is a rapid development of Indian lines, and I think there is room for both the State and the Companies in the country. But rapid and extensive development means immense expenditure freely poured, and this means the borrowing of large sums indeed. I hear talk of spending 30 millions in the next ten years. For the present, so we know, this capital must come from England; and I think I would much sooner see it raised by private Companies than by the State. We hear much said, by irresponsible writers, of the enormous progress of American Railways, as compared with the progress in India; but all people who examine the question and get it to understand it properly, must see that the example of America is quite as much a warning as an encouragement; that it is a light-house that does not so much show us the roads we should follow, as the rocks that we must avoid. American railways are raised by speculation. But whatever private capitalists may do, the State cannot afford to speculate, because the risk is the risk of the whole country, *not of people who contribute voluntarily to a venture, but of the tax-payers who contribute involuntarily, who are not consulted, but who nevertheless have to find the interest, whether the returns to the investment are good or bad.*" The italics in this passage

are ours. We commend Sir Alfred Lyall's sensible and thoughtful observations to enthusiastic advocates of railway extension in India. These gentlemen are never tired of telling us that America has 50 millions and of souls 100,000 miles of railway,whereas India has a population of about 250 millions and only about 10,000 miles of railways. But they would do well to look into the financial position of the American lines. If they do so, they will find that of 15 of the Chief American lines, representing a nominal capital of 652 millions of dollars, the depreciation of value in the course of 1883 amounted to no less a sum than 85 million dollars; that this serious fall followed another important drop in 1882; and that only seven of the 15 lines paid anything in the course of the year to their share-holders. All new American lines have invariably proved unremunerative; it is only the old lines that pay their way. Bearing these facts in mind, well might Sir Alfred Lyall say that the example of America is a light-house that does not so much show us the roads we should follow, as the rocks that we must avoid. Sir Alfred said he would give a cordial welcome to private enterprise to aid us in the work of providing India with railways. But experience has shown that private capitalists would not undertake the construction of railways in India on their own responsibility. Considering the great amount of English capital which is embarked in foreign investments, it may fairly be assumed that the whole of this capital, or at any rate a considerable portion of it, would have been sunk in Indian railways if they had really been sound and profitable investments. Vast sums of English money are annually wasted in a countless number of worthless and fraudulent investments; yet the English capitalist would not venture a sixpenny upon Indian railways without a guarantee from Government. This fact alone is sufficient to show that Indian railways are not such paying concerns as the Government of India and its advocates would have the public believe. So long as the Government has to bear the risk of loss, it is perfectly immaterial whether the money required for railway construction in India is raised by the State or by private Companies. When a guarantee is given to investors, it is idle to talk of private enterprise, as the tax-payer must find the interest whether the returns to the investment are good or bad.

The second occasion for expressing his views on the question of railway extension was afforded to Sir Alfred Lyall by the recent formal opening of the new railway bridge of the Jumna at Muttra. This bridge is the connecting link by the metre gauge system of Railways between the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Western Provinces of India *via* Rajputana. In the course of his speech delivered on the occasion of inaugurating the Jumna Bridge at Muttra, Sir Alfred Lyall observed :—"So far as I can see, the financial prospects of the through line [from Cawnpore to Achneyra] are excellent, and the investment is likely to return a good profit to the State and the shareholders. Gentlemen, here we observe that this is one of the few lines in which native shareholders are directly interested, and I think this is a very important fact. In regard to the much-debated question as to who shall make the railways in India, and on what terms, I have no new views to produce. I am sure, like every one else, that railways we must have as speedily as possible, on one gauge or the other, in one system of finance or the other. If private enterprise will not come forward fast enough, the State must go on taking the lead. But I hope the time is not far distant when the Provincial lines, whoever constructs them, will belong largely to the people of the Province. I hope this sincerely, because whoever constructs the lines, it seems to me to be very important that the people who are most interested in their management should own them : since the railways are likely to be best adapted to the varying needs and circumstances of the trade and trafic of the country when the leading inhabitants are largely interested in them. The State or some of the great foreign Companies can best contribute engineering skill and organisation and general supervision in the public interest; but on these local lines, and to a great extent on all lines, the railway business lies mainly like that of any other branch of commerce in finding out what really suits its customers, and in adapting its arrangements to their comfort and convenience. I think this will be best done, by enlisting native gentlemen's aid in the management. Local Self-Government will here find an excellent field for development, being guided by the sound principle that local knowledge, common sense, and every-day experience, are the best qualifications for managing the details of local business. This principle appears to me to suit very well as an element in the management of our Provincial lines, and now that the great cities of Northern India are going to make a new departure in the direction of Self-Government, I have some hope that more attention will be paid by native capitalists to local railways. They may not pay the high interest to be obtained by ordinary commerce but people will find that in the long run it pays them very well indirectly to establish some share in a substantial interest in the management of their own railway lines." We may tell Sir Alfred Lyall frankly that there is little hope of attracting Native capital to Indian railways. It cannot be too carefully borne in mind that no Native capitalist in the interior of the country would *voluntarily* invest his money in undertakings which at best promise 5 or 6 per cent, when he can easily get a return of from 12 to 18 per cent. on mortgages of real property, which cannot run away. It is only those persons who invest their money in Government securities, who can be expected to embark their capital in railways. But the number of such persons outside Presidency Towns is exceedingly limited. It may be urged that the policy of raising local loans for railway construction has proved successful in the case of the Muttra-Hattrass Railway, and the Cawnpore—Farakhabad Railway, which have now been amalgamated into one line. But we know very well how that success was achieved. The simple and blunt truth is, that official pressure was brought to bear upon the local capitalists to subscribe to the loan. The Government, no doubt, declared that there was no compulsion in the matter, and if Native capitalists disliked subscribing to the loan, they were at liberty not to do so. This was the theory; but the practice in this, as in so many other cases, did not coincide with the theory. The Government, instead of calling for tenders by a notification in the official *Gazette*, left it to district officers to raise the loan; and the result was what might have been anticipated. When a district officer "invites" a Native gentleman residing within his jurisdiction to do, or abstain from doing a certain act, that invitation is tantamount to a positive command, and no one having a stake in the district dare refuse to comply with it. That the shares of the Muttra-Hattras Railway were in a manner forced upon the capitalists cannot be doubted. Almost all the small capitalists who had been pressed to subscribe to the loan disposed of their shares at heavy losses. Indeed, so great was their anxiety to get rid of their railway stock, that they sold it at discount ranging from 15 to 25 per cent. when 4 per cent. Government securities were selling at a premium; and the shares almost invariably passed into the hands of European officials. If Sir Alfred Lyall desires to satisfy himself of the correctness of this statement, he can easily make an enquiry into the matter. Surely, the Native capitalist is not so stupid that he should voluntarily buy railway stock at par and then immediately sell it at such an enormous loss.

THE AFGHAN FRONTIER QUESTION.

FROM certain statements lately made in the House of Commons by Lord Fitzmaurice, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in answer to questions asked him by various members, it appears that the Russian Government had published a new general staff map, which placed the new frontier of Russia within 50 miles of Herat, and included within that frontier territory always hitherto recognised as Afghan; that communications are still proceeding with the Russian Government as to the delimitation of the frontier of Afghanistan; and that Her Majesty's Government is not aware of the existence of any treaty by which Russia is authorized to occupy Sarakhs. The importance of these statements cannot be over-estimated. In view of the communications with Russia the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs did not consider it advisable to make any statement in regard to Old Sarakhs or Pul-i-khatun. But a Reuter's telegram from Simla to London says : "It is expected that a mixed English and Russian Commission will proceed in the autumn to the Northern border of Afghanistan to mark out the frontier. An agreement has, it is understood, been arrived at between the British and Russian Governments, providing in general terms that the frontier shall follow the course of the Oxus as far as Khojah Saleh, whence it will proceed west and south, taking a circular course along the margin of cultivation to Pul-i-khatun on the Hari Rud River." Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett pointedly asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons whether Her Majesty's Government recognised the absorption by Russia of the country up to old Sarakhs, and whether they had accepted Pul-i-khatun, which is 50 miles south of Sarakhs, and 150 miles south of Merv, as the starting-point of the new Russo-Afghan frontier. Lord Fitzmaurice, however, declined to answer the question, on the ground that he could not give any information in regard to the communications which were passing between Her Majesty's Government and the Russian Government respecting the Afghan frontier question.

If the statement contained in the Simla telegram quoted above be correct, it would seem that Her Majesty's Government, not content with having acquiesced in the Russians absorbing the country up to Old Sarakhs, now intend to surrender a valuable slice of fertile Afghan territory, and allow the Muscovite to approach yet 52½ miles nearer Herat. As Mr. Charles Marvin says :—"Established at Pul-i-khatun, the Russians will be within 150 miles of Herat and 80 of Meshed; our garrison at Quetta being at the same time 514 miles from Herat. Distant as Quetta is 145 miles from Kandahar, and separated from it by a more difficult road, the Russians will be able to occupy Herat from Pul-i-khatun before our Quetta troops can even sight Kandahar. There is no reason whatever why Russia should be permitted to make a fresh advance from Sarakhs to Pul-i-khatun. She could control the Turcomans and maintain order along her frontier just as easily from the former place. The effect of this new surrender of Her Majesty's Government is to admirably enlarge the Russian lease at Sarakhs—to give Russia an area of several hundred miles of fertile territory where she can organise operations against Herat. . . The annexation of Merv was bad, the annexation of Sarakhs was worse, but in this alleged intended advance to Pul-i-khatun affairs seem to have reached a climax calling for an indignant, energetic protest on the part of the public against the proposed arrangement." Now these thoughtful and weighty observations should receive the attentive and careful consideration of Government. The British Government could not reasonably say a word against the incorporation of Merv in the dominions of the Czar, for Merv was not claimed by Afghanistan. Even such a pronounced Jingo as the late Sir Bartle Frere deliberately recorded his opinion that the occupation of Merv by Russia could not be made a *casus belli*. Sarakhs is much more important in a strategic point of view. It may be stated without exaggeration that the establishment of the Russians at Sarakhs menaces Herat. But Sarakhs belongs to Persia, and the sovereign of the country can cede any portion of his territories to whomsoever he likes. The English have no right to prevent Russia advancing on Sarakhs. But an advance from Sarakhs to Pul-i-khatun would be an altogether different thing. This territory has hitherto been recognised as Afghan. Such being the case, no time should be lost indefinitely laying down the boundaries of Afghanistan. We are glad to see that the *Times*, in one of the semi-official articles that it occasionally publishes on Afghan affairs, announces that before

the end of the present summer, steps will have been commenced for the purpose of defining the limits of Afghan jurisdiction with or without the co-operation of Russia. The leading journal points out that the task which will devolve upon the Boundary Commission is one of very great difficulty, for it is only for a comparatively limited distance that the main stream of the Oxus forms an unmistakeable frontier line. The writer in the *Times* observes:—"But when the Afghan border leaves the Oxus at Khoja Saleh it at once presents local difficulties which increase as we draw nearer to Merv and Sarakhs, and other places on the Murghab, and the Hari Rud where the Russians threaten before long to have military posts and strong garrisons. The very extent of the desert which flanks it may save to insure the safety of the route passing through Audkhoi Shiborgan and Maimena, and the Afghan ruler would always be well satisfied if the outlying towns or places called Khoja Saleh and Audkhoi were left in his possession, and with them an open road for his garrisons beyond the Hindoo koosh. The vagueness of the frontier only becomes dangerous from the presence of the strong and aggressive Power now established along it, and as armies do not voluntarily choose circuitous routes through vast deserts, it follows that danger is most acute in those river valleys which have provided past conquerors with convenient avenues of approach to Herat from Persia and Central Asia. The critical part of the frontier delimitation begins at Maimena and ends at Kushan. It depends upon English diplomacy and Afghan strength to supply a frontier line traced along an arc between these two places which shall satisfy the exigencies of the time, and thus produce that sense of security which is now so plainly wanting." Whatever the difficulties of the task of the Boundary Commission may be, they must be boldly faced. The *Times* takes up an unassailable position when it says that no adjustment of the Afghan frontier can be pronounced satisfactory that fails to convert Peujdeh into a fortified Afghan position, whether the Sarik Turcomans prefer to move into Afghan territory or accept their lot as Afghan subjects. There can be no manner of doubt as to the importance of Peujdeh, where Russia might be checked on one of the two important lines of advance which she has secured by the occupation of Merv and Sarakhs.

The writer in the *Times* pertinently observes that the limits of Afghan territory have been defined, and the labours of the Boundary Commission brought to a satisfactory close; but the arrangement cannot stand by itself. He points out what must be obvious to any person who has a grain of common sense in him that, the frontier line will be of little avail unless the English people are determined to resent its infraction by force of arms. As the first step towards the attainment of the great object of putting a stop to the advance of Russia, the delimitation of the frontier of Afghanistan is absolutely necessary. But when this task has been accomplished Russia should be distinctly given to understand that any encroachment upon Afghan territory will be regarded as a declaration of war.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE HAVE been favoured with the following time table of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor's tour through Jessore, Khulna and Ranaghat:

4th August	—Leave Sealdah	10-30 P. M.
5th	" Arrive Jessore	6-30 A. M.
6th	" Leave Jessore	10-30 A. M.
"	" Arrive Khulna	12-30 P. M.
"	" Leave Khulna	4-30 P. M.
"	" Arrive Jessore	6-30 P. M.
7th	" Leave Jessore	10 A. M.
"	" Arrive Ranaghat	12-30 P. M.
"	" Leave Ranaghat	3 P. M.
"	" Arrive Calcutta	5 P. M.

ANOTHER Anglo-Indian has passed away. Mr. George Gordon Morris died in London on 4th July last. The family of the deceased is well known in India. His grandfather retired from the Bengal Civil Service in 1803 and his father in 1842. After a brilliant career at Hailebury the lamented deceased came out to India in 1849 and soon after his arrival distinguished himself as a orien al scholar by carrying off several prizes of the Fort William College. After a short service of six years he was made Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal. His next important appointment was in the Indigo Commission appointed to enquire into the disturbed relations between the Indigo planters and the ryots of Nuddea, Jessore &c. In 1865 he was made the District and Sessions Judge at Backergunge and in 1872 was elevated to the Bench of the Calcutta High Court. The early promise he gave of a successful career was fully realised in after life. He had an equable temper, an indomitable patience and perseverence and an uncommon power of analysis. Whatever he undertook to do, he spared no pains to do it well. His amiable manners endeared him to all sections of the European community. He gained the respect and confidence of all who were associated with him, either as colleagues or as members of the Bar.—Let his soul rest in peace.

MESSRS. LLOYD AND CO., of this city as agents of various Tea Companies holding lease-hold properties in Bengal, in a letter to the Government of Bengal complained that they experience great difficulty in consequence of the operation of the "Sundown" Law under which property may be sold for arrears of revenue through the negligence of their managers without their being aware of it. They therefore ask either that a notice may be served upon them in Calcutta at least a week before the latest day for the payment of the rents or cesses due, or that they may be allowed to pay a sum of money to the credit of Government at the Bank of Bengal from which the rents or cesses may be paid as they become due. In reply to this letter, the local Government has replied as follows: "A complete remedy for the difficulty of which you complain is already provided in the law. A reference to section 15 of Act XI. of 1859 will satisfy you that every recorded proprietor of land paying revenue directly to Government, has under that section, the power of lodging with the Collector of the district in which the revenue is payable a sum of money or Government securities for the purpose of being applied to the payment of any arrear of revenue that may remain due on his estate after sunset of the latest day of payment. As long as money or securities sufficient to cover any arrear that may fall due remain available in the Collector's or Deputy Commissioner's hands, so long will the estate be exempted from sale for arrears of revenue." It is hardly generous to require to pay the revenue in advance and at the same time to create fresh and insurmountable difficulties in the recovery of rents. The sun-set law has been and will continue to be the ruin of many a noble family in Bengal. The Government sticks to it tenaciously and denies proper legal assistance in the recovery of rents at the same time.

MR. R. BELCHAMBERS the able and popular Registrar of the Calcutta High Court, Original Side, has laid the legal world under very great obligations by presenting it with a new book called "The Practice of the Civil Courts" with the latest rules for admission of attorneys, pleaders and muktears and other new rules of the Calcutta High Court. Even a cursory glance of the book will show that the author has taken very great pains in getting it up and has displayed considerable skill in arranging his subjects. It has been his practice, he says, to keep notes of cases (Indian and English) relating to procedure. Those notes having been found useful by the Bench as well as by members of the profession it was suggested that they should be arranged and published. The result of this suggestion is the present volume. As a matter of course, therefore, it abounds in very valuable informations on the various departments of law administered in the Courts of British India. The book commences with the several jurisdictions of the High Court and goes on to define the powers, responsibilities and liabilities of Advocates, Attorneys, Vakils, Mooktears, and the officers of the Court. It then proceeds to deal with almost everything enacted in the Code of Civil Procedure and treats of various other Acts and Statutes of the India Council bearing upon the Civil Law administered in this country. As a book of reference, we may say without fear of contradiction, it is by far one of the most valuable works on Civil Law we ever came across. A very noticeable feature of the book is that all the points treated are supported by the authority of Indian and English case-law. The arrangement of the various chapters is extremely convenient so much so that even a layman can have no difficulty in referring to the book and acquainting himself with its details. The practical usefulness of the book is, beyond all question, very great. It is calcul ted to be equally useful to the Bench, the Bar and the student of Law, and we would recommend the Government to supply all judiciaries in the country with a copy of the book. It should find a very prominent place in the shelf of every lawyer and no legal library can be complete without a copy. The chapters on Vakils, Mooktears, Nazirs, Gomastas, documents, interrogatories, Receiver, Injunction, Administration Suit, mortgage and partition are likely to make the book specially useful to the Mofussil Bench and Bar as these subjects are not so well understood in the remote provincial Courts.

The book has been, we are happy to notice, worthily dedicated to the Hon'ble Sir Richard Garth, the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court. Mr. Belchambers has by the publication of this volume earned the gratitude of all connected with the administration of Law in this country and we make no doubt that he will receive at their hands the cordial support and encouragement he so eminently deserves.

WE HAVE received the following from an esteemed correspondent:

"One of our contemporaries has a long article on Progress under the heading "Revival." If what he supposes be true, if indeed there has been a reaction—a real growing feeling which seeks to gratify itself—to bind all sections together by magnifying the past, that feeling is undoubtedly of a wholesome kind and no matter what the strength of the arguments of our youthful reactionists may be, that feeling of theirs will with the help of the existing enlightenment in the world at large lead them on to a glorious future. Our contemporary seems to us to miss the *feeling* which is working from within and addresses himself only to arguments which however are of comparatively minor importance. We hope he yet will come to feel that the so-called educated classes of this country can never form an organic whole, "differentiated" from the uninstructed many who are too much a part of ourselves to be regarded as environment even. We suspect a single but radical error vitiates the whole of our contemporary's reasoning. Because progress is the end, it does not follow—least of all with one who knows the logic of that great motto—that nationality is not an end also. Just domestic organization is the foundation of national organization, even so to attain the brotherhood of mankind—to find a place in the hierarchy of nations we must any how secure the solidarity of the component unit *e.g.* the *country* or the family. We are not so sure whether Bengal or India is our country as we are decided that the solidarity of either must not break off from the past in order to attain that continuity of the future which our contemporary justly appreciates."

A LARGELY-attended meeting of the landholders of the Bhaugulpore Division was held on 25th July last to consider the revised Tenancy Bill. Maharajah Sheo Prosad Sing Bahadur of Gidhour was in the chair. The following Resolutions were passed:

I.—Proposed by Rajah Pudmanund Singh of Banaili seconded by Mr. M. B. Morrison, and supported by Babu Tarini Prosad—that in the opinion of this meeting, the provisions of the revised Bengal Tenancy Bill are not free from the serious defects of the Bill, and that in some p ints its provisions are more detrimental to the rights, held by the landholder class under the Permanent Settlement of Bengal and Behar. That while the Bill tends to unduly interfere with the cherished rights of an important class of the community, confirmed and conferred by the solemn enactment of 1793, to oust the Civil Courts of their jurisdiction, and to centralize more power in the hands of the revenue authoriti es

against the express declaration of the Code relating to the Permanent Settlement, and contains unworkable provisions and others which would lead to strife between landlords and ryots, it fails to secure the good of the actual cultivators of the soil. That this meeting is, therefore, of opinion that the Bill should be withdrawn. II.—Proposed by Babu Srimohun Thakur, seconded by Babu Charu Chunder Mitter, and supported by Babu Sakhi Chand, that regard being had to the constitution of the Select Committee, appointed to consider the Bill, which is composed mostly of the official members, to the wide diversity of opinion, as expressed by responsible officers of Government and the non-official community and public bodies on the merits of the proposed legislation, and it being clear from the report of the Select Committee, the letter of the Government of India, dated 5th May, and the letter of the Bengal Government to the Commissioners of Divisions, that all necessary facts and informations bearing on many of the provisions of the proposed legislation, are not yet in the possession of Government, that this meeting is of opinion that in the event of the Bill not being withdrawn, a Commission, consisting of non-official Europeans and Natives, with power to take evidence, be appointed, and that the proposed legislation be suspended until the said Commission shall have made its report. III.—Proposed by Babu Upendra Chunder Singh, seconded by Babu Nund Lall Chowdhry, and supported by Munshi Elahi Bux, that a Memorial be presented to the Viceroy in Council with the signature of the Chairman of the meeting, embodying the views held by this meeting, as set forth in the above Resolutions, and that the Committee of the Bhaugulpore Landholders' Association be authorised to draw up and forward the Memorial.

A MEETING of the landholder of the District of Midnapore was held at the Public Library on the 27th July at 4 P. M.:

Present.—Chowdary Junmenjoy Mullick in the Chair, Babus Ramnidhi Kundu, Kartic Chunder Mitra, Gobind Chunder Dutta, P. L. Richards Esq., W. H. Larymore Esq., Managers of Messr. Watson and Co., Kali Das Deb, Manager Moisadal Estate, Jodu Nath Bose, Manager Narajole Estate, J. B. Wood Esq, R. G. MacDonell Esq.

Besides over 150 persons representing all classes of landholders of the district.

The following resolutions were moved and carried unanimously:

1. That in the opinion of the meeting the amended Bengal Tenancy Bill contains provisions which interfere with the rights of the Zemindars, vested in them by the Permanent Settlement and which they have enjoyed for about a century.

2. That the Bill, if passed into law, will be detrimental to the interests of both the landlords and the tenants, as it will disturb the existing amicable relations between them and the peace of the community, by fostering disputes and litigation between the parties.

3. That the Bill fails to afford reasonable facility for the realization of rent, which was one of the principal objects for the introduction of the Bill.

4. That the zemindars should be relieved of the duty of collecting the road and Public Works Cesses for the Government, as their properties are brought to sale on default of the tenants; and which duty they undertook to perform on the clear understanding that the law for the realization of rent would be simplified without delay.

5. That a Committee be formed of the following members: Chowdary Junmenjoy Mullic, P. L. Richards Esq., W. H. Larymore Esq, Managers of Messr Watson and Co's. Estate, Babus Gobind Chunder Dutta, Umesh Chunder Dutt, Kali Das Deb, Manager Moisadal Estate, Jodu Nath Bose, Manager Narajole Estate, Kader Nath Chatterjee, Kartic Chunder Mitra, Ramnidhi Koondu, Jogendra Chunder Roy, to adopt measures for the furtherance of the cause of landholders and to act in concert with the Central Committee of Landholders of Bengal and Behar.

6. That this meeting records its heart felt regret at the untimely death of the Hon'ble Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur C. I. E. who served his country and his countrymen so enthusiastically and ably and rendered immense service by advocating the just rights and legitimate interests of the landholders and tenants. And that a letter of condolence be sent to the family of the deceased gentleman expressing the deep and sincere sympathy of the meeting with them in this their hour of bereavement.

7. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Secretary of the Central Committee of Landholders of Bengal and Behar through their delegate Babu Abinash Chunder Bhuttacharji.

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION ROOMS,
18, British Indian Street,
Calcutta, 26th July, 1884.

Resolution.—The Committee of Management of the British Indian Association receives with profound sorrow the news of the untimely death of the Hon'ble Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur, C. I. E., and places on record its deep sense of the loss it has sustained by this melancholy event, and its appreciation of the zeal, ability and devotion with which he promoted the interests of the Association during his connection with it for a period of more than 24 years.

NARENDRAKRISHNA,
President,
British Indian Association.

THE following Resolution was adopted by the Town Council of the Calcutta Municipality:—

Resolved.—That the Town Council desire to place on record their sense of this irreparable loss which the Corporation has sustained by the death of their distinguished colleague Rai Kristodas Pal Bahadur, C. I. E. By his death the city has lost one of its brightest ornaments, the Municipality its oldest and most experienced Commissioner, and the Town Council a most valued adviser.

WE have received the following Telegram from the Satara Sarvajanick Shava:—

It was resolved at a meeting of the Satara Sarvajanick Sabha and the townspeople to send a letter of condolence to the family of the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal on the lamented death of that distinguished patriot.

THE announcement of the death of the Hon. Kristodas Pal will be received with regret by all classes of the community. As the editor of the leading native journal he did more than anybody else to bring about that improvement in the tone of the Anglo-Vernacular Press that has taken place within the past decade. We have often had occasion to differ from the views enunciated by Kristodas Pal in the columns of the *Hindoo Patriot*, but we have always recognised in him an honourable opponent. * * * * * * * Kristodas Pal could be outspoken enough when the occasion demanded, but he was never a man to waste his amunition, and he had, moreover, in a conspicuous degree the somewhat rare merit of being able to see both sides of a question. By his death a vacancy occurs in the Viceregal Legislative Council, which will doubtless be filled up by the appointment of some native gentleman friendly to the claims of the Zemindars. *Times of India.*

AT the Half-yearly Meeting of the Calcutta Trades' Association, held at their rooms in the Dalhousie Institute on Wednesday last, after the ordinary business of the meeting had been concluded, Mr. Zemin said that he did not doubt that the members of the Association will have learnt with deep regret of the recent death of the Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal, C.I.E. He (Mr. Zemin) felt that the opportunity afforded by the present half-yearly meeting of the Association should not be allowed to pass without their testifying their regret at the loss of so able and worthy a man, and their sense of his public services as a citizen. Nor was it necessary that he (Mr. Zemin) should take up very much of the time of the meeting in enlargening on the subject. The late Kristo Das Pal was personally known to almost all the members present. The high position he had acquired by his abilities, and the services he had rendered to the public in the various offices that he had held, were also well known. The members of the Association would, no doubt, remember that he had been brought into social intercourse with them on several occasions as their guest at the Annual Dinners of the Association at the Town Hall, at which his speeches, forming as they did one of the features of the evening, were always listened to with great pleasure and attention, and he (Mr. Zemin) was sure they would not be unwilling to have it known that the late lamented gentleman was certainly as much esteemed by the members of the Association for his abilities, his worth, and his public services as he was by other sections of the community, both European and native.

Mr. Zemin then proposed that the following resolution be entered in the minutes of the meeting:—

"That this meeting desires to place on record its feelings of deep regret at the early death of the Hon'ble Kristo Das Pal, C.I.E., and its sense of the high estimation in which he was held by the members of the Association for his personal character and worth as a citizen, and his able services, ungrudgingly rendered during many years, in the several offices of Justice of the Peace, Municipal Commissioner, and Member successively of the Councils, of the Bengal and the Imperial Governments."

The resolution, which was unanimously carried, was seconded by Mr. Irving, who said that he agreed fully with all that Mr. Zemin had stated, and concurred in the propriety of the resolution proposed by him as a testimony on the part of the Association to the worth of a man of the high character of the late Kristo Das Pal.

It was then proposed by Mr. Caithness, and seconded by Mr. Wallis, "that a copy of the resolution be forwarded by the Secretary to the son of the late Kristo Das Pal for communication to the members of his family."

A SPECIAL general Meeting of the Commissioners for the Town of Calcutta was held on Thursday last at 3 P.M. at the Town Hall. The chief business before the meeting was to discuss the crisis caused by the Local Government's letter of July 16th. The following were present:—Mr. H. L. Harrison, Chairman, Babus Kumodkissen Mitter, Preonauth Dutt, Dr. K.M. Bannerjee, Mudoosodan Dutt, Juggernauth Khunnah, Maharaja Norendro Krishna Bahadoor, Baboo Amritololl Mitter, H. M. Rustomjee, Baboo Kallynauth Mitter, Mr. Buckland, Abdul Rohman, Mr. Peterson, Baboos Surendronath Bannerjee, Jodulall Mullick, Mr. P. Gasper, Mr. Beeby, Baboo Jogesh Chunder Dutt, Mr. Chick, Moulvie Zuhrool Huq, Mr. Wallace, Dr. Bhoobun mohun Sircar, Hon'ble Reynolds, Coomar Denendro Narayan Roy, Baboo Lall Behary Bysack, Mr. Zemin, Mr. Hallet, Dr. Lalmadhub Mookerjee, Baboos Gonesh Chunder Chunder, Norendronath Sen, Moulivi Ahmed, Baboo Joygobindo Law, Mr. T. Mendes, Baboos Doyal Chunder Dutt, Radha Ramon Mitter, Sreenath Chunder, Wooma Canto Sen, Nobin Chunder Bose, Seetanauth Dass, Nilmoney Mitter, Mr. T. C. Ledlie, Baboos Bejoy Kissen Dutt, Nobin Chand Burral, Hon'ble Ameer Ali, Mr. Larymore, Baboos Prannauth Dutt, Sreenath Dutt, Gopal Lall Mitter, Mr. W. C. Madge, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Hart, Mr. Sykes, Baboo Prannauth Sarusvaty, Dr. Kanyelall Dey Rai Bahadoor, Moulvi Seraj-ul- Islam.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting, the Chairman rose and said:—Gentlemen, I have been asked to undertake the painful duty of making reference to the sad even which has caused so much grief to the whole city of Calcutta since our last meeting, and which more particularly we, the Commissioners of this Municipality, are bound to regret;—I refer to the death of a gentleman who was so distinguished a member of this Corporation, the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadur. Gentlemen, I have no gift of panegyric and am a very bad person to be intrusted with a motion of this kind but in this instance that is, perhaps, of less consequence, because the highest panegyric that could be passed in praise of the deceased gentleman is the bare simple reference to what he was and what he became. An unvarnished reference to the life of the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal is in itself the highest possible praise of the merits of a gentleman who began in a comparative humble station, and by the force of his own character, of his own talents, raised himself to almost the highest position in the land for one not in the direct service of the Government,—says all that need be said of his special prominence; that he rose first to be the most successful Editor of one of the chief papers in this city, that he made his name no less by his political capacity than by his literary capacity; that he was appointed a member of the Council to legislate for this province at an early age; that he was decorated with the order of the Indian Empire; and then, last of all, that he was raised to the Legislative Council for the whole of India, by which, I believe, most people thought that the Viceroy equally honoured the the gentleman whom he raised to that exalted position, and also equally honoured the Council to which he raised him, by showing to all how it is in the reach of everyone in this country to raise himself by his own abilities and talents even to the highest honour of conferring with the Viceroy himself regarding the welfare the country. Gentlemen, I have said nothing about that particular and highest gift of all—his gift of oratory. Looking around me I see many gentlemen here to whom no one could deny that the divine gift of eloquence has been bestowed; but I am sure that the most eloquent of them will agree with me in saying that for fluency of language, force of expression, richness of illustration, and power of declamation, our deceased friend was ahead of all of us. It is difficult, gentlemen, to realise that the place that we used to see him occupy, to where we used to turn and see his bright intelligent face will now know him again no more; that these walls will never again echo back his eloquent words; that the year which saw him begin in the full possession of all his vigour, or at least of so much of his vigour that he was able to take a prominent part in public affairs, that year which saw so much of the fruit of his labour should almost ere it reached the middle have seen him cut off.

Is it possible that never again shall we have the benefit of his wise advice,—never again will those in difficulties be able to go to him and follow his lead! Gentlemen, I had more to say; but I am unable to say all that I could wish, for he was a personal friend of mine, and only a few days before his death I saw him and talked to him on Municipal affairs. In him we have lost a man whom all admit cannot be at present replaced I hope gentlemen, you will excuse me if I read the motion I ask you to adopt instead of saying more. I propose that the Commissioners in meeting desire to put on record their profound grief at the untimely death of their most valued and esteemed colleague, the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, Rai Bahadur, C. I. E., and to express their sense of the irreparable loss which they have sustained.

Babu Kalinath Mitter said:—I have very great pleasure in one sense in secondiug this resolution. I can give my personal testimony, Mr. Chairman, to everything you have been pleased to observe about our friend. It is a matter of deep regret that I perform this duty of seconding this resolution, for his

loss is to us irreparable. I can hardly think that it would be possible to replace it in the Municipality by another person. Everyone who knew him knew him to love him. He had our unbounded respect; every sentiment of his was admired by us; and we had not a better friend than the Hon'ble Kristodas Pal. The resolution was then put and agreed to.

Maharajah Narendra Krishna then moved that a copy of the resolution be sent to the members of the deceased gentleman's family.—*Indian Daily News.*

THE LATE BABU KRISTODAS PAL RAI BAHADUR, C. I. E.

BENGAL has lost one of her noblest sons; Hon'ble Kristodas Pal is dead. It is hardly possible at this moment when our grief is so fresh and so keen to express in anything like an adequate manner our sense of appreciation of his services and of his magnitude of the loss the country has sustained. This brief and hurried sketch is only a feeble attempt to pay our humble tribute of admiration to a memory more fit to be silently adored than noisily talked about. The Hon'ble Kristodas Pal was entirely a self-made man. He came of an humble stock. In his early years he was taken in hand by Babu Hurro Chunder Ghose and received a systematic education. He was brought up first in the Oriental Seminary —then called by a different name—and subsequently in the Metropolitan College which had been established by Babu Rajender Dutt. The details of his academic career and of his earlier adventures in life we may pass over, for they require a more elaborate treatment than we are now in a position to give. He contributed largely to the local press and soon came to be known as a young man of great abilities brilliant acquirements and sound practical sense. In 1861 he became editor of the *Hindoo Patriot* a paper which had been started by one who alone among Bengalees was greater than himself as a journalist namely, Hurrish Chunder Mookerjea. This paper he has edited with singular ability for nearly a quarter of a century. He worked in various other capacities,—as a Secretary to the British Indian Association, as a member of the Calcutta Municipality, as a member of the Bengal Legislative Council, as a fellow of the Calcutta University, and recently as a member of the Vicaregal Council. In all these capacities he worked zealously, strenuously, conscientiously. The various offices which he filled were valuable to him not as sources of distinction and honour but as giving opportunities of useful work. The honorary titles of Rai Bahadur and Companion of the Indian Empire he set little store upon, for they were mere honours. Whoever knew him personally knew that his incentive to industry was the desire of work for its own sake,—of quiet, steady, honest work. Ambition for dignities he had not, for ambition, as we know, is made of sterner stuff. He died at the comparatively early age of fifty-one not probably "ere his prime" but soon after it. He has left behind him a widow, a son and a daughter and, most lamentable of all, his father and mother.

The story of his life is simple; and even if filled in with ample details will present nothing which is picturesque or sensational. Kristodas Pal's life is not a life of adventure; it is not a life of baffled hopes and renewed efforts, of extravagant schemes and impetuous action. He never in his life did an act or uttered a word which could be made by his bitterest enemy the basis of any charge against him and which would require to be defended with overtaxed ingenuity by a sympathetic biographer. His is a beautiful life,—a pure, spotless, serene life never for one moment agitated by passion or betrayed by self-interest into error or indiscretion. We indulge in no exaggeration when we say that the man never has had an enemy. Such an imperturbable temper has never been known. Such a heart pregnant not only with celestial fire but imbued also with angelic meekness has never been known. His countrymen knew him as one of their best friends and unquestionably the most powerful of their friends. He has fought their battles many a time and oft, valorously and well, and has laid the whole country under a deep debt of gratitude. At the same time the Government recognised him as one of its firmest supporters, as the leading interpreter of English principles of Government to the Indian people. While the people feel that their friend and guardian is gone the Government must soon perceive that one of the main "pillars of the empire" is fallen.

Kristodas Pal's intellectual powers and attainments were of a high order. He wrote in a lucid and vigorous style; he was matchless as a debater. His capacity for work was inexhaustible. He wrote the *Patriot* with very little assistance from any body. He did nearly all the literary work of the British Indian Association. He was a remarkably active member of the Legislative Council to which he belonged and of the Municipal Corporation. And he wrote an infinite number of petitions without any sort of remuneration only to do a good turn to poor people who stood in need of his help. He had no rest for the last quarter of a century. The poor over-worked man has at last found rest, and there is not a man in Bengal who will not give all he has to recover for a few brief moments the labourious worker that is now laid low in the dust. There was one thing specially characteristic of his intellect; it was the ability to master facts and to grapple with practical problems by the help of facts. The Hindu mind is proverbially imaginative; at best it is metaphysical and purely logical. No one is surprised to see a native of this country displayiug wonderful powers of language and logic; but the laborious student of facts is a rarity. Kristodas Pal had not merely powers of language and logic but had extraordinary aptitude for acquiring facts and turning them to good account. His leading articles, his speeches, his memorials have sometimes been so overcrowded with facts as to appear repulsive to the imaginative and impulsive reader. He was marvellously well-informed on all topics of contemporary Indian history, of legislation, administration, finance and every thing else that is included in Indian Politics. All the information which is to be found in volumes of *Gazettes*, in minutes, despatches, speeches, essays, old newspapers and other records, he possessed and had ready at command. The rent question he had specially studied; and it is a sober truth that there is not a man in Bengal who has read more or thought more on the subject of land-tenures in this country than he had done. There can be no doubt that the loss which the Zemindars have sustained by his death is irreparable.

The moral worth of the man is, however, even more striking than his intellectual gifts. Hundreds of people would bear willing testimony to his kindliness, his generosity, his amiable disposition, his unfailing politeness. A distirguished man living a busy public career is subject to no small distractions and embarrassment. He is misunderstood, misrepresented, abused, admonished, threatened. Motives are imputed at every step. Every single act and every single utterance are eagerly canvassed and opinions freely expressed. Applicants for favour come in abundance and if they are disappointed they are converted into enemies. Kristo Das Pal was not free from these embarrassments; he has been subject to them a great deal more than other public men. He has patiently borne all evils. He has never uttered an angry word or done a malicious act. He has benefitted a no small number of individuals in private life. No man has ever been repulsed from his door or has heard from him an unkind word in the midst of the busiest of his occupations. His position in life was high, his wealth was great, but he was more kind, considerate and affable in his behaviour than a head clerk in a Government office would be. His habits of life were extremely simple; and the look of the man spoke volumes. His cheerful countenance, his radiant eyes, his commanding forehead, his calm dignified demeanour showed unmistakably to every body who had eyes to see that the man was born to be a leader of men, a favourite of men, a friend of men. Moderation was his great quality; and it was the result of large sympathies and extensive acquaintance with men. We misunderstand and we condemn men we do not know. We can never be guilty of judging harshly people we do know. When a friend does a wrong act, we are disposed to take the most charitable view and to discover explanations. Kristo Das Pal knew every body; therefore he could judge no body harshly. He knew Sir Ashley Eden, he knew Lord Lytton, he knew the zemindars who are described as oppressive. Knowing them he could not pronounce verdicts on them with the same unrelenting severity which strangers could. But no considerations of friendship ever warped his conscience or made him forgetful of duty. He was charitable, so long as there was room for charity; but he never flinched from truth in the critical hour. There are occasions in every man's life when passion overclouds the reason and dictates words and acts which are regretted in cooler moments. Kristo Das Pal has weathered many a storm and roughed it over many a boisterous sea, but his reason never has been overclouded. His utterances are not only suitable to the occasion; they are good for all time. There was scarcely a man in India who was not deeply agitated by the Ilbert Bill and did not say things which he would now like to withdraw. When we read the debate in Council over the Bill, we find that Kristo Das's speech was the most dignified of all and there is not a word in it which the most scrupulous taste would wish to be withdrawn. There is nothing in the whole body of his speeches and writings which he would have occasion to regret. As we have said, his words and acts were not for particular occasions but for all time.

We have finished our account. A heart heavy with grief and a mind paralysed by a serious blow are no fit instruments for giving to the world an artistic biography and portraiture of character. We have endeavoured not so much to do full justice to the dead, for he is a personality we cannot measure with our small span, but to relieve ourselves of an oppressive load of anxious reflection by indulging in a little desultory talk of the man we loved so much and whose memory we devoutly worship. It is not every day that such a man is born in this world; and this country cannot certainly spare one such man. To imagine that any Secretary to the British Indian Association or any editor of the *Hindoo Patriot* would turn out a Kristo Das Pal is the widest dream that ever was dreamt. We cast our eyes about and we do not see where a successor is to be found. The man who has prematurely left us to mourn his loss was not a mere journalist, a scholar or a councillor, but a kingly kind of man, free from many of the failings of human nature, a radiant child of the empyrean, fresh from God's own hand. Where is the same temper to be found, the same mildness, the same generosity, the same peaceful and peace-making spirit? What a wealth of learning and virtue had been treasured up in that stately frame the decayed remnants of which were converted into ashes at that Nimtolla Burning Ghat on the 24th of July! The thousands of mourners who looked with mingled feelings of regret and despair on the closing ceremony could hardly have appreciated in that moment of excitement how much Bengal had been impoverished by the loss of that single life.—*Indian Nation.*

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CASES OF CHRONIC COUGH.—This celebrated Oil has been most extensively and successfully used in the treatment of Chronic Coughs. It effectually corrects the morbid action and deposits of the mucous surfaces of the throat and bronchial tubes, and speedily allays the irritation which produces frequent and prolonged coughing. Dr. Hunter Semple Physician to the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, writes:—"I have long been aware of the great reputation enjoyed by the Light Brown Cod Liver Oil introduced into medical practice by Dr. de Jongh, and have recommended it with the utmost confidence. I have no hesitation in stating my opinion, that it possesses all the qualities of a good and efficient medicine." Its taste is by no means disagreeable, and might even be called pleasant. I can fully believe that, from its richness in chemical principles, it is superior in efficacy to many, or perhaps all, of the pale-coloured Oils. I have found Dr. de Jongh's Oil very useful in cases of Chronic Cough, and especially in Laryngeal Disease complicated with Consumption." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, ANSAR, HARFORD and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—30*th July* 1884.

General—27th June—Mr G Henderson, Barr at-Law, Offg Chief Presdy Magte, is also to act temply as Coroner of Calcutta.

2nd July—Bunkoo Behary Buxee, Sub-Depy Colr, Pakur, Sonthal Perghs, is transfd to Godda, in that dist, from date on which he joined his apptmt.

Mr E J B Chapman, Sub-Depy Colr, Chandbally, Balasore, leave for one month, from date he may avail himself of it.

Mr J A Hopkins' C S, reported his departure from India, on forlough, on 8th inst.

24th July—The order of 1st April last, granting one month's privilege leave to Baboo Mahanund Gupta, Depy Colr, on special duty, is cancelled.

Moulvie Azhurl Huq, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Swan, Sarun, leave for six months, in continuation of leave granted 16th April last.

Baboo Kasturi Lal, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Purneah leave for two months and twenty-seven days from date he may avail himself of it.

25th July—Mr S N Banerjee, Tempy Sub-Colr, on leave to act as a special Depy Colr for employment under the P. W. Department, Railway Branch, of this Govt for the purpose of acquiring lands for the Chupra Division of the Patna-Bara-itch Railway, during absence of Baboo Radha Shyam Sing.

Mr Banerjee is vested with the powers of colr under Act X of 1878 in Sarun.

This cancels order of 2nd ult, apptg Baboo Nowrungi Lal on this duty.

26th July—Baboo Hurry Podo Ghose Tempy Sub-Depy. Colr, Chittagong Hill Tracts, leave for three months, from date he may avail himself of it.

28th July—Mr P. G Melitus, Offg Jt Magte and Depy Colr, Meherpore, Nuddea, leave for three months, from date he may be relieved.

Mr C B Beames, Depy Magte and Colr, Lalbagh, Moorshedabad, is transfd to Nuddea, and to have charge of the Meherpore sub-divn that dist during absence of Mr P G Meltius, on leave.

Bhabo Pran Kumar Dass, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Gya, on leave, is transfd to Moorshedabad, and to have charge of the Lalbagh sub-divn of that dist.

Mr H J Newbery, Offg Magte and Colr, Rungpore, to act in first grade of Magtes and Colrs from 12th ult.

Mr C A Samuels, Offg magte and Colrs, Chittagong, to act in second grade of Magtes and Colrs, from 12 th ult.

Mr F H Barrow, Offg Magte and Colr, Khoolna, to act in second grade of Magtes and Colrs, from 20th ult.

Dr K B Stuart, Coroner of Calcutta, leave for four months, from date he availed himself it.

In supersession of order of 12th inst, Baboo Bimala Charan Bhattacharjya, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Jehanabad, Hooghly, is transfd to the sudder station of the dist. of Jessore.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Beerbhoom is transfd to Cuttack, and to have charge of the Jajpore sub-divn of that dist during absence of Baboo Komal Nath Ghose.

Baboo Gunga Narain Roy, Offg Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Nuddea, is transfd to the sudder station of Beerbhoom.

29th July,—The Hon'ble H J Reynolds, Secy to the Govt of Bengal, in the Genl and Revenue Depts, to be a Member of the Board of Revenue, from 29th inst, vice Mr H L Dampier, C I E, resigned.

Advertisements.

Notice.

It is hereby notified that houses No. 145, 146, 147, 148 and 150 Aheritolah Street Calcutta, will be put up to sale to the highest bidder at the upset price of Rs. 35,000 either in one or separate lots, at the office at the Collector of Hooghly on Saturday the 9th August 1884. Intending purchasers are therefore requested to appear there on that date either in person or by agents. Full description of the houses will be given at the time of sale.

TAMLUK
The 26th July 1884.

MOHESH CHUNDER SINGHA,
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Applications with copies of testimonials will be received up to 7th of August 1884.

J. P. SCOTLAND,
Executive Engineer Buxar Division.
Buxar, dated 23rd July 1884.

NOTIFICATION.

THE Corporation of the Town of Calcutta are prepared, with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, under the provisions of Section 334 of Act IV.(B C) of 1876, to receive Tenders for Debenture Loan for Rupees (15,00,000) fifteen lakhs, on the security of the rates, taxes and dues imposed and levied under the said Act, to be expended on the Drainage Improvements of the Town of Calcutta.

2. Debentures will be issued for said amount bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, payable on the 1st August and 1st February of each year, and having a currency of 20 years.

3. The form of the Debenture Bonds will be that given in the seventh schedule of the aforesaid Act.

4. No Debenture will be issued for any sum less than Rupees (500) five hundred, and above that amount Debentures will be issued only for even sums of Rupees (100) one hundred.

5 Subscriptions will be received by the Bank of Bengal, and Debentures will be issued as soon as possible in exchange for the receipts.

6. Tenders of the whole or any part of the above-named sum of Rupees (15,00,000) fifteen lakhs will be received by the Secretary to the Corporation up to 2 o'clock P. M. of the 7th August 1884.

7. Each tender must be made out in the form annexed to this Notification, and enclosed in a sealed cover superscribed "Tender for Municipal Loan for 1884-85."

8. Tenders will be opened at the Municipal Office, on Thursday, the 7th August 1884, at 2 o'clock P. M.

9. The amount of the accepted tenders must be paid into the Bank of Bengal in the following instalments:—

Two-eighth within 15 days of acceptance of tenders.
Two-eighth on the 17th September.
Two-eighth on the 17th October.
One-eighth on the 17th November.
One-eighth on the 17th December.

Anticipation interest will be paid on all instalments. But the whole sum tendered or any portion thereof, may, at the option of the tenderers, be paid before the date when it is due, and will bear interest from the date of payment.

10. Each tender must be accompanied by Government Promissory Notes or Currency Notes not less than 2 per cent of the amount tendered.

11th. The deposits on tenders which may not be accepted, will be returned on application, and will be forfeited if an allotment after being made is not taken up.

12. In case of two or more tenders at the same rate a *pro rata* allotment will be made.

13. The rate stated in a tender must not contain any fraction of an anna; if a rate containing a fraction of an anna is inserted in any tender, such fraction will be struck out, and the tender treated, as if the rate did not contain such fraction of an anna.

14. In order to avoid mistakes, a separate tender must be made at each rate tendered, and a separate deposit must accompany each such tender. It is desirable that the tender, or at least the name of the person making the tender, and the amount and rate tendered should be written in English

H. L. HARRISON,
Chairman

FORM OF TENDER.

I hereby tender for ( ) Rupees of the Loan advertised in the Notification published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, dated 9th July 1884, and agree to pay for the same, subject to the conditions notified, at the rate of Rupees annas * for every hundred Rupees allowed to me.

* Fractions of one anna not allowed.

2. I enclose Government Promissory Notes or Currency Notes for Rs. and engage, if my offer be accepted, to pay to the acconnt of the Municipality at the Bank of Bengal, Calcutta, the amount of the accepted tender in accordance with the terms of the Notification.

N. B.—A separate tender must be made at each rate tendered, and a separate deposit must accompany each tender. In order to avoid mistakes, it is desirable that the tenderer, at least the name of the person making the tender, and the amount and rate tendered, should be written in English.

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Morson's Pepsine Porci	5	12	0
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Bullock's Pepsine Porci	8	0	0
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Notice.

The Vice-Chairmanship of the Calcutta Corporation is vacant.

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ROBERT TURNBULL,
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Rs.	1,000	2,000	3,000	5,000	7,000	10,000	

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Rs.	12,000	16,000	19,000	24,000	28,000	

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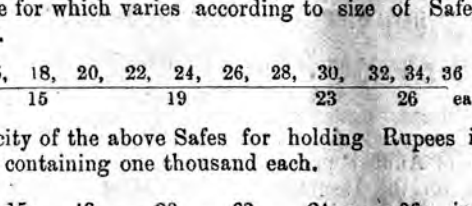

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মাসিক পত্র।

বার্ষিক মূল্য ১৷৷০ টাকা মাত্র।

প্রথম সংখ্যা ১৫ই শ্রাবণে প্রকাশিত হইবে।

প্রথম সংখ্যার বিষয়।

১। সূচনা।

২। বাঙ্গালার কলঙ্ক—"ভারত কলঙ্কের" পরিশিষ্ট।

৩। হিন্দুধর্ম্ম—শ্রীযুক্ত বাবু বঙ্কিমচন্দ্র চট্টোপাধ্যায় প্রণীত।

৪। সংসার—শ্রীযুক্ত বাবু হেমচন্দ্র বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায় প্রণীত।

৫। সীতারাম—ঐতিহাসিক উপন্যাস শ্রীযুক্ত বাবু বঙ্কিমচন্দ্র চট্টোপাধ্যায় প্রণীত।

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DARJEELING HIMALAYAN RAILWAY Co. Ld.

DEBENTURE LOAN OF RS. 2,20,000.

By virtue of the powers conferred on them at the Extraordinary General Meeing of Shareholders held on the 19th June and confirmed on the 7th July th Directors of the above Company hereby invite tenders for Debentures to the extent of two lacs and twenty thousand Rupees (Rs. 2,20,000) which will run pari passu with the previous issues as well as any subsequent issue.

The Debentures will be for sums of Rs. 1000 each having a currency of 15 years and bear interest at the rate of 5% payable half yearly on presentation of coupons which will be attached to the Debentures.

In issuing the Debentures the Company secures to the holders a first charge on its moveable property present and future and all its receipts and Revenue.

Tenders will be received and replied to at any time up to the 1st September next. Tenders to be sent to the Office of the undersigned where forms of tender can be obtained on application,

Payment of any accepted tender must be made within 7 days of the date of notice of acceptance of such tender and Interest will acrue from date of payment,

By order of the Directors.

GILLANDERS ARBUTHNOT & Co.,
Calcutta, 22nd July, 1884. Agents.

নবজীবন।

নূতন মাসিক পত্র।

(আগামী শ্রাবণ মাস হইতে প্রকাশিত হইবে)

শ্রীঅক্ষয় চন্দ্র সরকার কর্ত্তৃক সম্পাদিত।

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The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

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25	64 12 0	48 8 0	41 0 0	25
30	68 8 0	51 10 0	44 0 0	30
35	73 8 0	56 0 0	47 12 0	35
40	79 8 0	61 0 0	52 2 0	40
45	86 0 0	66 10 0	57 8 0	45

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20	32 2 6	34 14 0	38 14 0	20
25	36 0 0	40 0 0	46 0 0	25
30	42 4 0	48 0 0	57 6 0	35
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